2017 Report on the Consultation on Regulating Progressive Raffles in Yukon

Yukon
Government

This report was prepared by Rachel Westfall, Senior Statistician, Yukon Bureau of Statistics for the Department of Community Services, Government of Yukon. For more information, please contact ybsinfo@gov.yk.ca.

Introduction

In order to gather feedback from its stakeholders, the Department of Community Services developed a survey on the topic of the regulation of progressive gaming.

In Yukon, the Department of Community Services regulates charitable gaming under the *Lottery Licensing Act* and *Lotteries and Games of Chance Regulations*. Currently, the regulations allow charitable organizations to run raffles, bingos and small casinos, with specific rules for how each game can be run. Both the Criminal Code and *the Lottery Licensing Act* and regulations limit the types of games so that the public are protected and treated fairly.

Yukon does not currently have regulations that specifically address progressive raffles. Progressive raffles can be different from traditional raffles in several ways, and sometimes they lead to much larger jackpots, as they have prize pots that can grow larger over time.

Methodology

The Yukon Bureau of Statistics hosted the survey questionnaire online, and the Department of Community Services distributed a survey link to its stakeholders. The survey was in the field in May and June, 2017. There were 79 responses to the survey.

Results

Thirty-five percent of respondents said they thought Yukon should have a cap on the overall jackpot amount for progressive raffles, while 52% said there should be no cap, and 13% said they were not sure (Figure 1).

Of those who said there should be a cap, 42% agreed with a cap of $100,000, 37% thought the cap should be $250,000, and 26% wanted a cap of $500,000 (Figure 2). Nine respondents (29%) wanted the cap to be a different amount, ranging from $0 (no progressive jackpots) to $750,000. Six of those respondents wanted jackpots to be capped at a much smaller amount (between $1,500 and $25,000).

Figure 1. Percent of respondents who think Yukon should have a cap on the overall jackpot amount for progressive raffles (n=79)

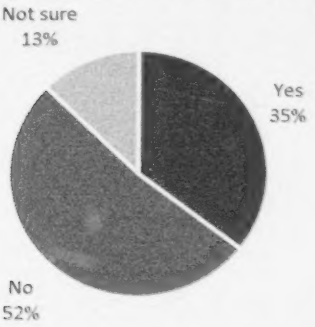
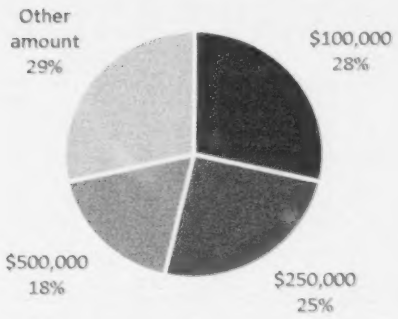


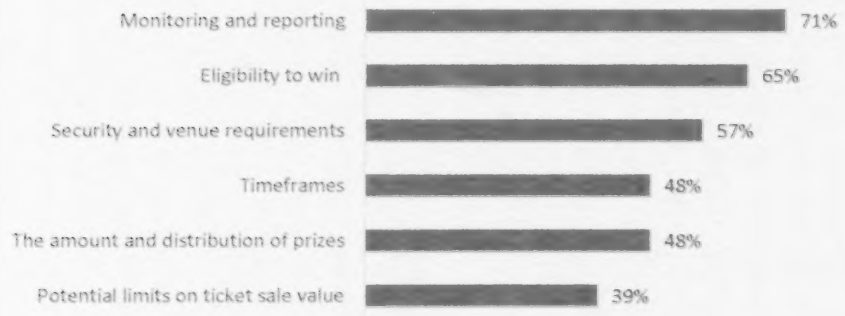
Figure 2. Desired cap on the overall jackpot amount for progressive raffles (n=28; Figure 1=Yes)



In order to maximize value for charitable organizations while ensuring public safety and game integrity, Yukon government may require a safety/security plan from applicants outlining controls such as: plans to accommodate increased traffic and/or attendance at the draw venue, and how the money from the ticket sales will be secured.

Stakeholders were asked what elements they thought should be included in a safety/security plan. The majority agreed that the plan should include monitoring and reporting (71%), eligibility to win (65%), and security and venue requirements (57%). Timeframes (48%), the amount and distribution of prizes (48%), and potential limits on ticket sale value (39%) were less popular (Figure 3). Other responses included security of monies, and deciding on limits at the time of issuing the license.

Figure 3. Percent of respondents who think the following elements should be included in a safety/security plan (n=79)



Some respondents (26%) foresee challenges for charitable organizations to submit a safety/security plan (Figure 4). These challenges include the following:

- A learning curve on how to prepare the plan; specific challenges for volunteer-run organizations (nine responses)
- Venues may not have the capacity to host large draws (two responses)
- A detailed template will be required (two responses)
- Unknown challenges may arise (five responses)
- The plan will add unnecessary red tape, or may not be needed for smaller draws (three responses)

Figure 4. Percent of respondents who see challenges for charitable organizations to submit a safety/security plan

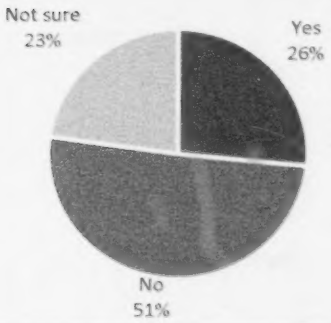
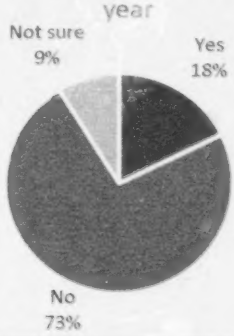


Figure 5. Percent of respondents who see advantages to capping the number of progressive raffles Yukon government licenses in a year



Only 17% of respondents said they saw advantages to capping the number of progressive raffles Yukon government licenses in a year (Figure 5).

Those who agreed with capping the number of raffles gave the following reasons:

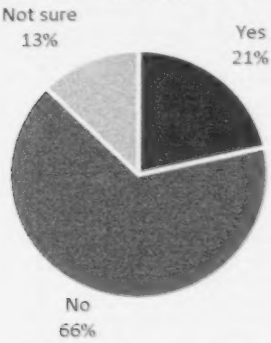
- Prevent flooding the market (eight responses)
- Protect the public from the potential harms of gambling (four responses)
- Allow for gradual implementation and manage workload for government (two responses)

Twenty-one percent of respondents said they could foresee challenges arising as a result of progressive lotteries being played in Yukon (Figure 6). These challenges include:

- Gambling addiction and other social problems (seven responses)
- Scams and illegal events (two responses)

- The same organizations dominating the market (two responses)
- Security issues (two responses)
- The learning curve for government and non-profit organizations (one response)

Figure 6. Percent of respondents who foresee any challenges arising as a result of progressive raffles being played in Yukon



When asked what Yukon government could do to mitigate these challenges, respondents suggested the following:

- Heavy monitoring, mandatory training and reporting, and planned implementation (three responses)
- Address gambling addictions (two responses)
- Set limits on the amount an individual can gamble (two responses)
- Place a cap on the size of the jackpot (one response)
- Limit the number of events (one response)
- Place limits on the type of venue, e.g. not at bingos (one response)
- Make the rules very clear (one response)
- Randomly select host organizations (one response)
- Don't allow progressive raffles at all (one response)

The frequency tables for the responses to each question are provided below (Appendix A).

Appendix A. Frequency tables

Q1. In parts of Canada, (i.e. Nova Scotia and N.W.T.) some Chase the Ace progressive jackpots have grown to very large amounts, sometimes over a million dollars. With these large jackpots come logistical challenges for the organizations that run them.

Do you think Yukon should have a cap on the overall jackpot amount for progressive raffles?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	28	35.44
No	41	51.9
Not sure	10	12.66

Q1.1 If yes: What do you think the cap should be?

	Frequency	Percent
$100,000	8	42.1
$250,000	7	36.84
$500,000	5	26.32
Other amount	8	42.1

Q2. In order to maximize value for charitable organizations while ensuring public safety and game integrity, Yukon government may require a safety/security plan from applicants outlining controls such as: plans to accommodate increased traffic and/or attendance at the draw venue, and how the money from the ticket sales will be secured.

From the list below, please select the elements that you think should be included in a safety/security plan.

	Frequency	Percent
The amount and distribution of prizes	38	48.1
Potential limits on ticket sale value	31	39.24
Eligibility to win	51	64.56
Timeframes	38	48.1
Security and venue requirements	45	56.96
Monitoring and reporting	56	70.89
Other	3	15.79

Q3. Do you see any challenges for charitable organizations to submit a safety/security plan?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	21	26.58
No	40	50.63
Not sure	18	22.78

Q4. Do you see any advantages to capping the number of progressive raffles Yukon government licenses in a year?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	14	17.72
No	58	73.42
Not sure	7	8.86

Q5. Do you foresee any challenges arising as a result of "progressive" raffles being played in Yukon?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	17	21.52
No	52	65.82
Not sure	10	12.66

Appendix B. Survey questionnaire

Note: This questionnaire was available in both English and French.

Consultation on Regulating Progressive Raffles in Yukon

1) In parts of Canada, (i.e. Nova Scotia and N.W.T.) some Chase the Ace progressive jackpots have grown to very large amounts, sometimes over a million dollars. With these large jackpots come logistical challenges for the organizations that run them.

Do you think Yukon should have a cap on the overall jackpot amount for progressive raffles?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No -> Skip to Q2
- ☐ Not sure -> Skip to Q2

1.1 If yes: What do you think the cap should be?

- ☐ $100,000
- ☐ $250,000
- ☐ $500,000
- ☐ Other _____

2) In order to maximize value for charitable organizations while ensuring public safety and game integrity, Yukon government may require a safety/security plan from applicants outlining controls such as: plans to accommodate increased traffic and/or attendance at the draw venue, and how the money from the ticket sales will be secured.

From the list below, please select the elements that you think should be included in a safety/security plan.

- ☐ The amount and distribution of prizes
- ☐ Potential limits on ticket sale value
- ☐ Eligibility to win
- ☐ Timeframes
- ☐ Security and venue requirements
- ☐ Monitoring and reporting
- ☐ Other: _____

3) Do you see any challenges for charitable organizations to submit a safety/security plan?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No -> Skip to Q4
- ☐ Not sure -> Skip to Q4

3.1 If yes, what challenges do you think this requirement will present for charitable organizations?

_____

4) Do you see any advantages to capping the number of progressive raffles Yukon government licenses in a year?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No -> Skip to Q5
- ☐ Not sure -> Skip to Q5

4.1 If yes, what advantages do you see in capping the number of progressive raffles?

_____

4.2 How many licenses a year do you think should be the limit?

- ☐ 5
- ☐ 10
- ☐ 25
- ☐ Other _____

5) Do you foresee any challenges arising as a result of "progressive" raffles being played in Yukon?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No -> Skip to End
- ☐ Not sure -> Skip to End

6) What challenges do you foresee arising?

_____

7) What could Yukon government do to help mitigate those challenges?

_____